

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/533,230

Applicant(s)

HENDRIX, JOHAN LEOPOLD
VICTORINA

Examiner

Tung X. Le

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment submitted on 10/24/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,6-13,16,17 and 19-27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/21/2007
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 01152008
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


THUY TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to the Applicant's amendment submitted on October 24, 2007. In virtue of this amendment:

- Claims 2-5, 14-15, and 18 are cancelled;
- Claims 21-27 are newly added; and
- Thus, claims 1, 6-13, 16-17, and 19-27 are pending in the instant application.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Gregory L. Thorne on January 15, 2008. The amendment in the claims 1, 6-13, 16-17, and 19-27 includes:

Claim 1, line 1, insert --A-- before "pulse";

Claim 1, lines 5-6, delete "capable of being" and insert --configured to be-- therefor;

Claim 1, line 7, delete "capable of being" and insert --configured to be-- therefor;

Claim 1, line 7, insert --a-- before "pulse";

Claim 1, line 12, insert --a-- before "buffer";

Claim 6, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 7, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 8, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 9, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 9, line 2, insert --a-- before "buffer";

Claim 10, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 11, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 12, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 13, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 16, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 19, line 1, insert --a-- before "driver";

Claim 21, line 1, insert --A-- before "pulse";

Claim 21, lines 5-6, delete "capable of being" and insert --configured to be--
therefor;

Claim 21, line 7, delete "capable of being" and insert --configured to be-- therefor;

Claim 21, line 7, insert --a-- before "pulse";

Claim 21, line 11, insert --a-- before "buffer";

Claim 22, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 23, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 24, line 1, insert --The-- before "pulse";

Claim 25, line 1, insert --A-- before "pulse";

Claim 25, lines 5-6, delete "capable of being" and insert --configured to be--
therefor;

Claim 25, line 7, delete "capable of being" and insert --configured to be-- therefor;
and

Claim 25, line 7, insert --a-- before "pulse".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 6-13, 16-17, and 19-27 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art of records fails to disclose or fairly suggest:

- A pulse booster circuit, comprising an electric energy storage buffer; a pulse generator; and a buffer charging circuit configured to sense a voltage difference between the first and second input terminals and to charge the energy storage buffer from the first and second input terminals in response to sensing the voltage difference exceeding a first predetermined threshold, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as claimed in independent claim 1 (claims 6-13, 16-17, and 19-20 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 1).
- A pulse booster circuit, comprising an electric energy storage buffer; a pulse generator; and a buffer discharging circuit adapted to sense a voltage level of the energy storage buffer and to discharge the energy storage buffer at least partly into the input of the pulse generator in response to sensing the voltage level exceeding a predetermined threshold, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as claimed in independent claim 21 (claims 22-24 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 21).

- A pulse booster circuit, comprising an electric energy storage buffer; a pulse generator; a series arrangement of a first breakdown switch and a storage capacitor, coupled between the first and second input terminals; a transformer having an input winding connected in series with a second breakdown switch, the series arrangement of second breakdown switch and transformer input winding being connected in parallel to the storage capacitor; and the transformer having a first output winding connected to the first output terminal, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as claimed in independent claim 25 (claims 26-27 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 25).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Citation of Relevant Prior Art

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art Kawasaki et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0175636 A1) discloses a discharge lamp lighting device.

Prior art Urakabe et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0070687 A1) discloses a gas discharge lamp lighting device.

Prior art Waki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,233,273) discloses a discharge lamp starting circuit.

Inquiry

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung X. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-6010. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas Owens can be reached on 571-272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Examiner
Tung Le
AU 2821

January 15, 2008



THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER